

# Carstairs Junction Primary School and Early Learning & Childcare

*Our Wee School's a Good Wee School*



J Armour

## **Head Teacher's Report – 30.5.24**

### **Our Sincere Thanks**

It has been another highly successful year of partnership working with our Parent Council. Thanks to everyone for working hard to fundraise and support the school in its improvement priorities, giving the children the best experiences with the Cost of the School Day at the heart of all planning.

The support continued to be evident through our recent HMI inspection in March 2024, with a very successful outcome. Several Parent Council parents spoke honestly and very positively about their own experience of their children being at Carstairs Junction Primary and ELC.

Special thanks to the office bearers for their support of the school throughout session.

### **Fundraising in 2023/24**

Our main fundraisers for session 2023/24 included the introduction of a Bonfire Bake, raising £363 in a very short space of time. It was a welcome community event to start off the session. The Christmas Raffle raised the fantastic sum of £1276 for the ELC and school. We are extremely proud of our social opportunities, giving all families the opportunity to be together. Moving into the Spring, the Daffodil Tea was now in the calendar for a second year and £667 was raised.

### **Funding of benefit to all**

As a result of the fundraising noted above, we were able to yet again keep the costs either zero or very minimal cost to parents. Our Christmas Panto trip was heavily subsidised by £632 by the Parent Council, which meant a cost of £5 for each child. Class & ELC excursions have been one of the highlights of the year and throughout Participatory Budget and funding to the sum of £595 from the Parent Council, there was again zero cost to families.

The P7 hoodies, were also aid in full by the Parent Council as well as the P1 & P7 ties.

The Halloween disco was also a great success, giving all pupils a fun time with very minimal cost to families and we look forward to our forthcoming Shorts & Shades Disco tomorrow.

### **Staffing**

Mrs Bone our Acting Depute Head Teacher has made the difficult decision to step back from her role as Acting DHT for personal reasons. Mrs Bone has quickly fitted into the team and will be missed. We thank her for all her hard work throughout the session, which I know she will continue to do until she leaves.

### **Classes for 2024/25**

We are hoping to be able to share with you class configurations and class teachers with all parents on 10<sup>th</sup> June. As always, we endeavour to give you as much notice as possible but the groupings/teachers are always subject to possible change.

Classes will be shared with parents prior to Step Up Days on 11<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June. Currently, we are configuring on 3 mainstream and 3 supported classes.

## **School Improvement Plan (SIP) 2023/24 Key Improvements:**

### **1. All stakeholders will continue to focus on curriculum development; contributing to the school rationale with a focus on the four contexts of learning.**

- ✓ Rationale is almost complete and will be shared shortly, with only a few audio/video clips to add
- ✓ Attention Autism has been successfully implemented in 2 of our supported classes. Those who were in the initial groupings have all progressed from Level 1 to 3!

### **2. All stakeholders will continue to focus on curriculum development; contributing to the school rationale with a focus on the four contexts of learning.**

- ✓ Clear focus on Learning intentions and success criteria in all classes this session
- ✓ Further increased range of texts through 'Reading Schools' focus, wider range of resources for Talk for Writing and video (Clickview)
- ✓ Further enhance Literacy/Writing opportunities in our ELC with Miss Barr leading on this

### **3. Further develop Play based learning pedagogy at Early level and introduce play based principles to First & Second level.**

- ✓ Play pedagogy is well- considered and is developing successfully in the Primary School by reflective teachers and support staff to support high quality learning teaching and assessment
- ✓ Forest Schools principles and practice are developing, with all classes now experiencing forest school experiences
- ✓ Skills are identified through floor book planning in almost all classes and ELC

#### **Equity**

- ✓ School continues to work in close partnership with YFCL to track, monitor and address barriers to attendance with families (<90%).
- ✓ Raise attainment in Literacy has been achieved through 1.1 and small group early intervention with identified groups through Nuffield Early Literacy Intervention (NELI)
- ✓ CoSD policy has been shared with all stakeholders and continues to be at the heart of all our planning.

#### **Highlights**

Parental engagement – Book bug, Read, Write Count, Multiply, You & Your Child  
Forest Schools for all classes  
Christmas Party at Cornhill!  
Funding – Bikes, Outdoor equipment and sensory garden is a work in progress  
YFCL – John Muir Award  
Scottish Celebration  
Inclusion Festival  
Small School Football Festival  
World of Work – Generation Science  
Lunch & after school clubs  
Transition plans

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